

Admin

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DPD 5603-01

12 September 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Air Support Branch, Development Projects Division

SUBJECT : Course Report, Air Operations Course No. 34

REFERENCE : Memo to Chief of Station, [REDACTED] from Chief, Air/ Maritime Branch, dated 11 August 1961; Same Subject 25X1A6a

25X1A9a 1. To paraphrase an expression of Mr. Bissell's in connection with the reference, I can say I have read it with "mounting depression". I had had several indications from various people in QTR [REDACTED] that all was not well at the course conducted from 10 July to 4 August, and while I am sure that [REDACTED] there was room for improvement on his side as well as ours, I do not believe that we can simply assume that the whole of the difficulty lies with the level of instruction. 25X1A9a

25X1A6a 2. You will note that the consensus is that the record of this course over-all was the poorest yet conducted. I cannot escape from the feeling that we are responsible for having done such a poor job of preparing some of our people for what they were about to experience [REDACTED] For 25X1A9a example, I cite the remarks attributed [REDACTED] wholly inappropriate. He was specifically discussed with me [REDACTED] as being a know-it-all, and along with [REDACTED] the two most difficult people 25X1A9a to handle throughout the course.

25X1A9a 3. I feel that before we sent any more Air Force officers to Agency training of this kind that they must be given a proper, if abbreviated, briefing on the Agency's organization, the structure and responsibilities of the DPD, and the role of clandestine air operations. I will even go so far as to say that if our new Air Force people do not go to another AOC, it is apparent that they should receive this sort of training before they start dealing actively with problems in air operations generated either in this Division Headquarters or overseas. The Office of Training has facilities for such orientation and indoctrination. We will never find time to fit this sort of basic familiarization into our schedule unless we make it

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part of the EOD process in your Branch. As a result, I intend to ask the Chief of the Administrative Staff to immediately confer with the Office of Training to determine the time and place for giving such orientation training to not only all recent Air Force EOD's but others in your Branch and in this Division who may have escaped such exposure in the past. I am also asking the Chief, Administrative Staff to determine the locus of responsibility for the obvious snafu involved in the submission of the internal training request forms No. 73.

4. In my opinion even someone who does not have basic orientation training in Agency functions and organization can display a helpful and cooperative attitude. From what I read in the attached report for the most part such cooperation was not afforded the personnel at the training site by the membership from EPD. I shall expect you to cooperate fully with the Chief, Administrative Staff in establishing an orderly training program that will not deprive you of your entire operational capability. Before another course is scheduled we must cover ourselves to prevent criticism of this sort from taking place. I do not believe that everything about air operations can be taught in any course, nor do I subscribe to the view that anyone experienced in military air operations is automatically qualified to be an expert in the field of clandestine air activities. Please discuss this with me at your convenience.

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Acting Chief, EPD-DD/P

Attachment

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - C/EPD/ASE, w/att
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